

[English]

Smuggling on Indo-Pak Border

4121. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI :

SHRI MAHESH KUMAR KANODIA :

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan had a detailed meeting with Pakistan's Federal Minister of Narcotics Control on ways to control and counter drug smuggling on the Indo-Pak border; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The meeting was held to prepare grounds for the bilateral meeting of the official delegations of the two countries held subsequently on 30th and 31st July, 1991 on mutual cooperation in combating drug trafficking and smuggling.

Exim Bank

4122. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Export and Import Bank of India propose to enlarge its role to package the relevant knowhow with domestic endowments and financing for successful and increased exports;

(b) if so, whether any detailed scheme has been prepared by the Exim Bank in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the extent to which it will boost our exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exim Bank has currently referred to RBI for its approval two new lending programmes : (i) Foreign Currency Preshipment Credit (FCPC) and (ii) Forfeiting.

(c) The FCPC programme represents a source of foreign currency pre-shipment finance to enable Indian Exporters to import essential inputs required for export production. The foreign currency funds raised under FCPC are expected to be self-liquidating in nature in as much as FCPC borrowings could be repaid out of the foreign exchange earnings from exports.

Forfeiting is a programme through which export receivables scheduled to be received over a medium or long term period can be realised in the short term. The mechanism aims at getting the export receivables discounted through the network of international forfeiting agencies.

(d) It is expected that the above new lending programmes, if approved by RBI, will lead to increased exports, though it would be too early to quantify such an increase.

[Translation]

Maintenance of National Highways

4123. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the rate per kilometre fixed for the maintenance of National High-